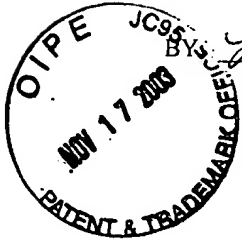


I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: MAIL STOP RCE, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.



L. Mc Laurin

DATE: November 14, 2003

PATENT  
MAIL-STOP RCE

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re:	Patent Application of	:
	Halvorsen, <i>et al.</i>	: Group Art Unit: 1651
		:
Appln. No.:	09/585,821	: Examiner: Sandra E. Saucier
		:
Filed:	June 1, 2000	: Attorney Docket No.
		: 5750-8B
Title:	METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR	: (59995-5002-01)
	THE DIFFERENTIATION OF HUMAN	:
	PREADIPOCYTES INTO ADIPOCYTES	:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed simultaneously with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, filed in connection with the above-referenced application. This Preliminary Amendment responds to the Office Action mailed November 14, 2002 (Paper No. 13) and the Advisory Action mailed June 3, 2003 (Paper No. 16).

This Preliminary Amendment is being timely filed in view of the Notice of Appeal filed in the above-captioned application dated May 19, 2003, which extends the time for filing a RCE, or otherwise taking action in this application, to and through July 19, 2003, and further in view of a Petition for Four-Month Extension of Time, and associated fee, being filed herewith, which extends the time for filing an RCE, or otherwise taking action in this application to and through November 19, 2003.

Kindly amend the application as follows: